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PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No. 14458.41

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Darcy W. Greep et al.

Serial No.: 10/021,607

Filed: December 12, 2001

For: UTILIZATION OF A MULTI-CHARACTER
MATERIAL IN A SURFACE COATING OF AN
ELECTROSURGICAL INSTRUMENT

Confirmation No.: 7181

Examiner: Aaron F. Roane

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TRANSMITTAL FOR REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR § 1.114 for the above-identified application.

A. Instructions and Averments

____ Enter the Amendment under 37 CFR § 1.116, previously filed on ____.

☒ This application is entitled to Small Entity Status under 37 CFR §§ 1.9 and 1.27.

B. Enclosed

☒ An Amendment and Response for entry in the present application.

☒ A Terminal Disclaimer.

☐ To render this RCE timely filed, enclosed is a Petition for Month Extension of Time.

☒ A Certificate of Mailing by "Express Mail" certifying a filing date for the enclosed application by use of Express Mail Label No. EV510294121US.

☐ An Associate Power of Attorney.

C. Payments

☒ Form PTO-2038 submitting payment in the amount of \$440.00 is enclosed to cover the following fees:

☒ the \$385.00 RCE filing fee pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.17(e); and

☒ the \$55.00 fee for the Terminal Disclaimer.

☐ Please debit Deposit Account No. 23-3178 in the amount of for the government filing fee.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3178.

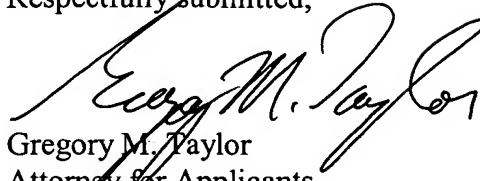
☐ The issue fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.18 at or before mailing of the Notice of Allowance, pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.311(b).

☒ A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Please address all future correspondence in connection with the above-identified patent application to the attention of the undersigned.

Dated this 2nd day of August 2004

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory M. Taylor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gregory" and last name "Taylor" clearly distinguishable.

Gregory M. Taylor
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 34,263
Customer No. 022913
Telephone No. (801) 533-9800